

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-10, 12, and 17 are presently active in this case. Claim 7 has been amended and claim 11 has been cancelled by the present amendment.

In the outstanding office action; Claims 7-10, 12, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by United States patent No. 6,515,720 to Iizuka et al. Claim 11 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In response to the indication of allowability, Applicants have rewritten independent claim 7 to include the feature recited in cancelled claim 11.

Consequently, no other issues are believed to be outstanding and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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